AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

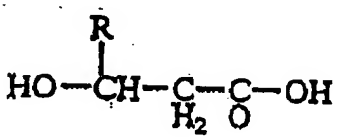
Please amend claims 1-3, 7-16, 18, 19, 21, and 22, cancel claim 4, and add claims 24 and 25 as shown below. The pending claims are as follows.

1. (Currently amended) A transformant

wherein at least one ~~kind of~~ gene expression cassette, comprising a polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene, a promoter and a terminator, has been introduced into a yeast which belongs to any of the genera *Candida, Hansenula, Kluyveromyces, Phaffia, Pichia, Schizosaccharomyces, Schwanniomyces, Trichosporon,* and *Yarrowia*.

2. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1

wherein ~~the~~ a polyester which is obtained using said gene expression cassette is a copolymer resulting from the to copolymerization of 3-hydroxyalkanoic acids of the following general formula (1);

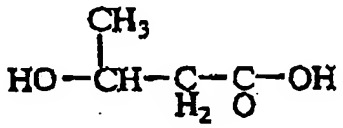


(1)

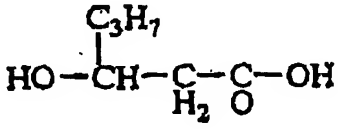
in the formula, R represents an alkyl group.

3. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1

wherein ~~the~~ a polyester which is obtained using said gene expression cassette is a copolyester ~~P(3HB-co-3HH)~~ resulting from the copolymerization of 3-hydroxybutyric acid of the following formula (2) and 3-hydroxyhexanoic acid of the following formula (3);



(2)



(3)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The transformant according to Claim 1 wherein the yeast is *Yarrowia lipolytica*.

6. (Previously presented) The transformant according to Claim 1 wherein the yeast is *Candida maltosa*.

7. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1 wherein ~~a polyester synthesis associated enzyme gene expression cassette comprises a promoter and a terminator,~~ said promoter and said terminator ~~functioning~~ function in ~~a~~ the yeast.

8. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the promoter and terminator are ~~derived~~ isolated from *Yarrowia lipolytica*.

9. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the promoter is ~~derived~~ isolated from *Yarrowia lipolytica* ALK3.

10. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the terminator is ~~derived~~ isolated from *Yarrowia lipolytica* XPR2.

11. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the promoter and terminator are ~~derived~~ isolated from *Candida maltosa*.

12. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the promoter is ~~derived~~ isolated from *Candida maltosa* ALK1.

13. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the terminator is ~~derived~~ isolated from *Candida maltosa* ALK1.

14. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1

wherein the polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene is ~~derived~~ isolated from *Aeromonas caviae.*

15. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1

wherein the polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene ~~is~~ comprises a ~~PHA~~ polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene ~~derived~~ isolated from *Aeromonas caviae* or ~~a PHA~~ the polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene and a (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene.

16. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 15

wherein said ~~PHA~~ polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene has the sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:3

and the (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene has the sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:4.

17. (Previously presented) A method of producing a polyester using the transformant according to Claim 1

which comprises growing said transformant and harvesting a polyester from the resulting culture.

18. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ An isolated polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene

wherein ~~which is modified from~~ at least one ~~gene code~~ codon CTG ~~to~~ is replaced with codon TTA, TTG, CTT, CTC or CTA, and said gene functions in a yeast which translates the codon CTG into serine.

19. (Currently amended) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 18 which codes for an enzyme ~~derived~~ isolated from a bacterium.

20. (Original) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 19

wherein said bacterium is *Aeromonas caviae*.

21. (Currently amended) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 20 wherein the enzyme gene ~~derived~~ isolated from *Aeromonas caviae* is a ~~PHA~~ polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene or a (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene.

22. (Currently amended) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 21 wherein said ~~PHA~~ polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene has the sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:3.

23. (Original) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 21 wherein said (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene has the sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:4.

24. (New) The transformant according to Claim 1, wherein said yeast belongs to the genus *Yarrowia*.

25. (New) The transformant according to Claim 1, wherein said yeast belongs to the genus *Candida*.